

Subsistence Farming in our region and the security of Food Production.

The family farm exists as one of the most important factors in food production in our region and around the country, most of our people rely on farming for their livelihoods

Our region is heavily dependent on Subsistence Farming, where food is produced merely for survival rather than profit.

However, climate change, natural disasters, unfit conditions and poor agricultural technology severely limit the success of our farmers, often leaving them with the inability to produce even enough for survival, much less enough to finance living costs and necessary medical and nutritional needs.

Malnutrition, poverty, sickness and poor living conditions are just a few of the affects of poor agricultural performance in subsistence farming.

Potential Solutions: Our current practices of farming is not sustainable for the future, we require a complete transformation of how we do farming if have to survive below is a list of potential solutions.

1. Use better and modern farming techniques, like irrigation and crop rotation and use science and modern technology to increase production of crops
2. Prepare for climate change as rising sea levels and change in weather patterns (monsoon) will affect farming conditions, i.e. how to cope
with floods, droughts and rainfall variability in a sustainable way. Crop Insurance may be a potential solution.
3. AgroForestry - increase the use of trees in agricultural landscapes, our region does not have many trees on the borders of farms or in non-crop bearing areas, planting fruit or vegetable bearing trees has many benefits like crop protection and reducing vulnerability to climate change.
4. Small scale farming to not profitable, we should consider combining our resources so that we can work together and produce more crops
5. A portion of our lands should be dedicated to fruit farming which is a good stable cash crop.
6. Work with the International Development Enterprise India (IDEI) to make technology available to our farmer.
7. Education is the key to our future, our children need to get higher education and move into other fields to be successful.
8. Venture into new businesses like tourism in the Dandi beach area.
9. The solution requires a regional solution by forming a united group of leaders who will work together using government and external sources to find and implement solutions.